IN THE CLAIMS

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) A method of screening for therapeutic agents useful in the treatment of a disease selected from the group consisting of cardiovascular diseases, cancer, endocrinological diseases, metabolic diseases, inflammation, gastroenterological diseases, hematological diseases, respiratory diseases, neurological diseases, and urological diseases in a mammal, comprising the steps of

i) contacting a PRSC1 polypeptide with a test compound;

ii) ~~i)~~ determining activity of the ~~a~~ PRSC1 polypeptide ~~at a certain concentration of a test compound or~~ in the presence ~~absence~~ of the ~~said~~ test compound;~~, and~~

iii) ~~ii)~~ determining the activity of the PRSC1 ~~said~~ polypeptide in the absence of the ~~at a different concentration of said~~ test compound; and

iv) identifying the test compound as a potential therapeutic agent useful for treating the disease if the test compound modulates the activity of the PRSC1 polypeptide.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of contacting is in a cell or at the surface of a cell.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the cell is *in vitro*.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the step of contacting is in a cell-free system.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the polypeptide is coupled to a detectable label.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the compound is coupled to a detectable label.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the test compound displaces a ligand which is first bound to the polypeptide.

10. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the polypeptide is attached to a solid support.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the compound is attached to a solid support.

12-26. (canceled)

27. (new) The method of claim 2 further comprising a step of determining whether the test compound has an effect on a symptom of the disease in an *in vivo* assay.